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ABSTRACT

Students are introduced to Haida vocabulary in this booklet which briefly describes the seasons and traditional seasonal activities of Southeastern Alaska Natives. The first section lists the months in English and Haida: e.g., January is "Taan Kungaay," or "Bear Hunting Month." The second section contains seasonal names in Haida and English as well as the five Haida food gathering times: Herring Egg Time, Black Seaweed, Red Salmon, Berries Ripen, and Dog Salmon Egg Month. The final section describes the most important natural events and food gathering activities of each month; the text is in English with selected Haida words in parentheses following the English equivalent. In some cases, the origin of Haida month names is provided; e.g., the Haida word for November, when bears hibernate, means "large thing laid down." Line drawings illustrate each page. (JH)

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HAIDA MONTHS OF THE YEAR

ROBERT COGO

RC 012021

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JANUARY	-	TÁAN KUNGÁAY
FEBRUARY	-	HLGIT'ÚN KUNGÁAY
MARCH	-	XITGÁAS KUNGÁAY
APRIL	-	XÍIT KUNGÁAY
MAY	-	TAHÁLAA KUNGÁAY
JUNE	-	GÁAN KUNGÁAY
JULY	-	GÁANGÁLANG KUNGÁAY
AUGUST	-	CHÍIN KUNGÁAY
SEPTEMBER	-	K'ÍIT'AASKUNGÁAY
OCTOBER	-	KÁLK KUNGÁAY
NOVEMBER	-	CHA'ÁAW KUNGÁAY
DECEMBER	-	T'A'ÁAW KUNGÁAY

BEAR HUNTING MONTH

GOOSE MONTH

NOISEY GOOSE MONTH

MIGRATORY GEESE MONTH

FOOD-GATHERING MONTH

BERRIES RIPEN

RIPE BERRIES

SALMON MONTH

CEDAR BARK FOR HAT & BASKETS

ICE MONTH

BEARS HIBERNATE

SNOW MONTH

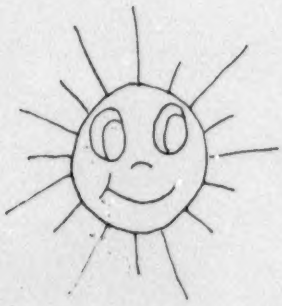
FOUR SEASONS

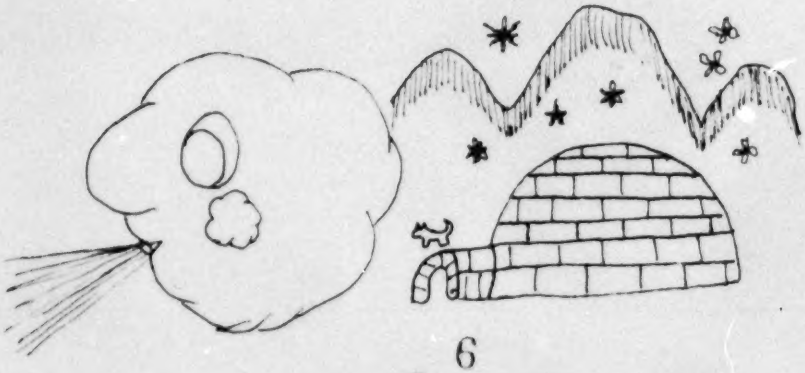
K'ÍNTL'EIHL - SPRING

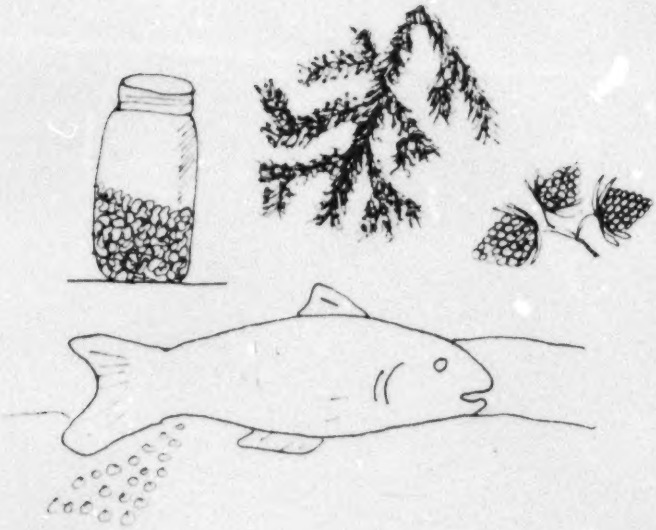
K'ÍNAL - SUMMER

CHÁANUUT - FALL

SÁNGGAAT - WINTER





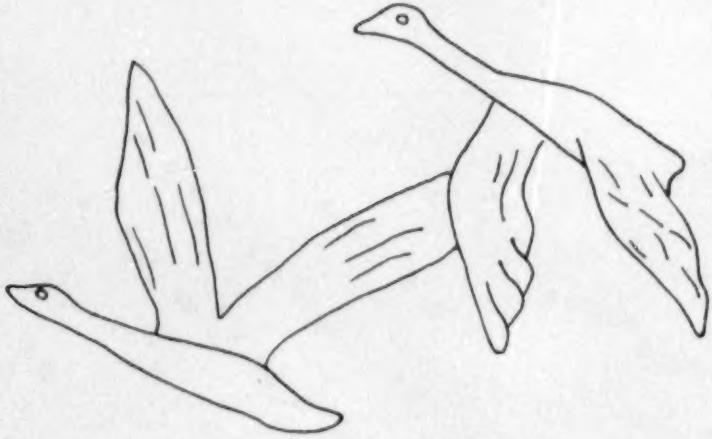


FOOD GATHERING TIMES

KÁAWNUUT	-	HERRING EGG TIME (MARCH)
SGÍWNUUT	-	BLACK SEAWEED (MAY)
SGWÁAGAAN	-	RED SALMON (JUNE)
GÁANNUUT	-	BERRIES RIPEN (JULY)
CHÁANUUT	-	DOG SALMON EGG MONTH (OCTOBER)

JANUARY

(TÁAN KUNGÁAY) THIS WAS BEAR HUNTING MONTH. THE FUR WAS PRIME AND IN MUCH DEMAND BY THE ENGLISH TRADERS OF THE HUDSON BAY COMPANY. THE HAIDAS (XAAD.DAS) USED DOGS (XA) TO GET THE BEAR (TÁAN) OUT OF THE DEN (HLTÁLK). THEY CALLED THIS (XAKÁA).

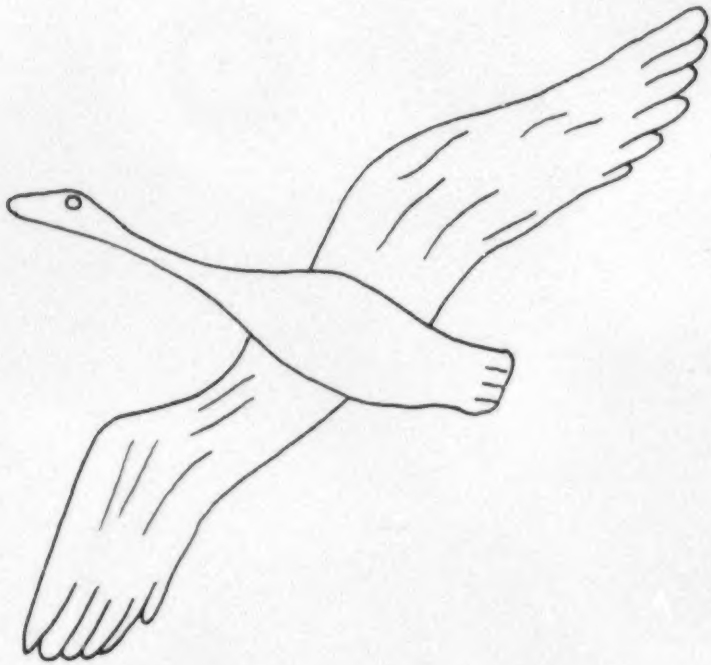


FEBRUARY

(HLGIT'ÚN KUNGÁÁY) THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY WAS THE MONTH FOR LOCAL GEESE. THEY WERE FAT (GÁÁYAA) AND FREE OF PIN FEATHERS. THESE GEESE WERE LOCALIZED, STAYED ALL WINTER AND WERE NOT MIGRATORY. THEY WERE A GREAT SOURCE OF FOOD (TÁÁW) AND WERE HUNTED BY BOW AND ARROW (HLÍIT).

MARCH

(X̲ITGÁAS K̲UNGÁAY) LOCAL GEESE STAYED ALL WINTER IN THE WARM MARCH SUN (JUUYÁAY). THEY PREENED THEIR FEATHERS (T'ÁA'WUN) AND LOUDLY FLAPPED THEIR WINGS. THEY WERE TONING UP AND SO THE NAME (X̲ITGÁAS K̲UNGÁAY).



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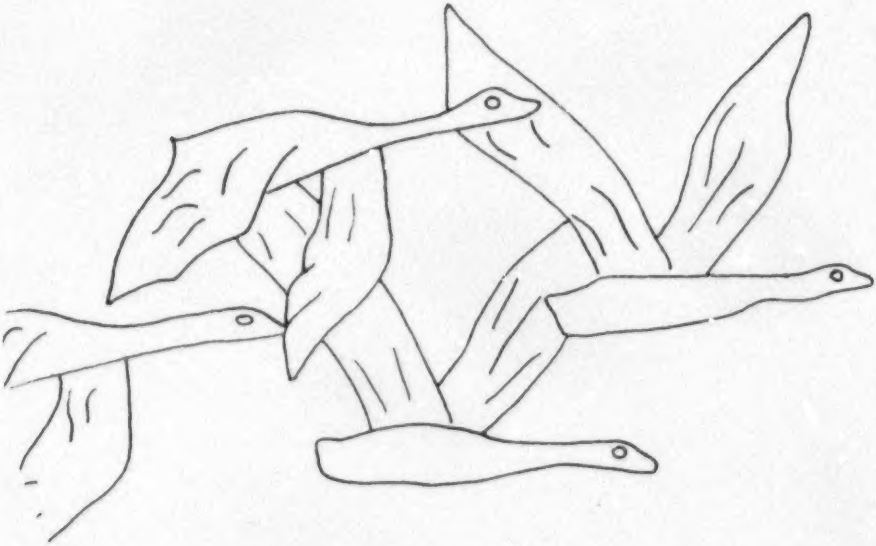

APRIL

(XÍIT KUNGÁAY) FOREIGN AND MIGRATORY GEESE (HLGIT'ÚN) MONTH. GREAT FLOCKS OF GEESE FLYING NORTH (SAHGWÍI) EVERY DAY. THEY FLEW A LONG WAY AND SO THE NAME (XÍIT KUNGÁAY).

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MAY

(TAHÁLLAA KUNGÁAY) THE MONTH OF MAY WAS A BUSY MONTH IN HAIDA (XAADAS) LAND. IT WAS A BUSY MONTH FOR EVERYONE. IT COULD BE FISH (CHÍIN), SEAWEED (SGÍW), GATHERING FOOD (TÁAW) OR PLANTING POTATOES (SGÚUSIIT). THE WORD (TAHÁLL-AA) MEANS TO GO AFTER OR HUSTLE FOR ANYTHING IN HAIDA.

JUNE

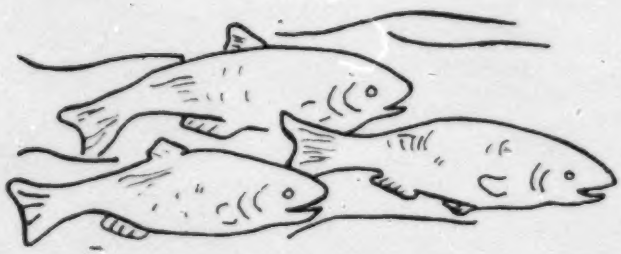
(GÁAN KUNGÁAY) BERRIES BEGIN TO RIPEN OR ARE GREEN (K'ÁAN K'ÁAY).

JULY

(GÁAN GÁLANG KUNGÁAY) RIPE BERRIES MONTH. SALMON BERRIES (SK'ÁWAAN) BLUE BERRIES (HLDÁAN) AND JACOB BERRIES (TS'ÍIK'AP), ETC.

AUGUST

(CHÍIN KUNGÁAY) THE MONTH OF AUGUST WAS A BUSY MONTH FOR CATCHING SALMON. SALMON (CHÍIN) WAS TAKEN FRESH (K'ANÁA) AND SMOKED (SKÍIDAA) AND DRIED (XILÁADAA OR SGITS'GALÁA). SALMON WAS A STAPLE FOOD (TÁAW) IN THE HAIDA (XAADAS) DIET. SALMON (CHÍIN) ENTERED THE BAYS AND CREEKS IN AUGUST.

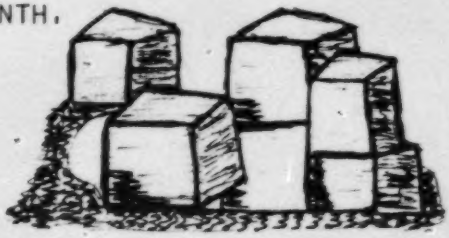


SEPTEMBER

(Sk'ak kungáay) Dog salmon month. Also cedar bark month for weaving and basketry. The gathering of cedar bark (gíit or gíidaang) in May is now cured & dry.

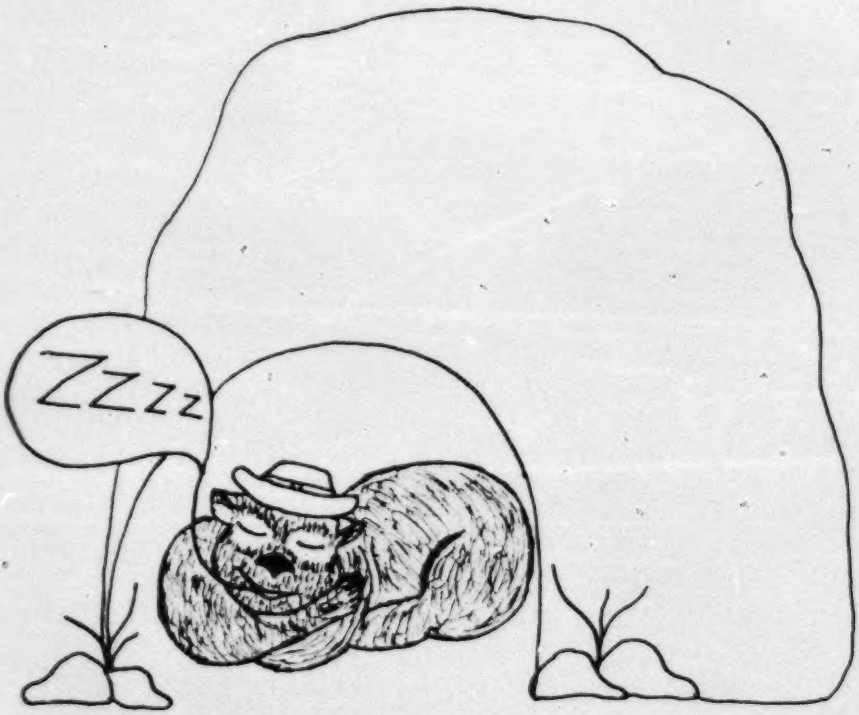
OCTOBER

(Kálk kungáay) Fist freeze and ice after fall months. Ice month.



NOVEMBER

(CHA'ÁAW KWNGÁAY) BEAR HOLE UP AND GO INTO HIBERNATION. BEARS ARE VERY FAT NOW AND SO THE WORD (CHA'ÁAW) MEANING LARGE THING LAID DOWN IN HAIDA (XAADAS).



DECEMBER

(T'A'ÁAW KUNGÁAY) VERY COLD MONTH. SNOW MONTH.

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